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10/605,725	10/22/2003	Tijs Y. Wilbrink	FIS920030294US1	2724
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Cantor Colburn LLP - IBM Endicott 20 Church Street 22nd Floor Hartford, CT 06103			EXAMINER JARRETT, SCOTT L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3623	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			04/09/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/605,725	<b>Applicant(s)</b> WILBRINK ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> SCOTT L. JARRETT	<b>Art Unit</b> 3623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Non-Final Office Action is in response to Applicant's submission filed October 22, 2003. Currently Claims 1-48 are pending.

***Title***

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: System and Method for Importing Calendar Data from a Computer Screen Into a Calendar Application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 25, 28-30, 33 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by RCAL as evidenced by at least the following reference: Payne, Terry R. et al., Calendar Agents on the Semantic Web (May/June 2002).

Regarding Claims 1, 25 and 48 RCAL teaches a calendar system and method comprising (Figures 1, 3):

- analyzing text displayed on a computer screen (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Figures 1, 3);

- identifying calendar (event, meeting, appointment, etc.) parameters comprising *at least one of*: date, time, meeting type *or* subject (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figure 3);

- creating a calendar entry/record including a source of the calendar parameters (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figure 1, “Add Events to Outlook”);

- pasting (inserting, copying, adding, etc.) the calendar parameters into the calendar entry/record (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figures 1,3); and

- automatically storing the calendar record/entry in a calendar application without opening the calendar application (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figures 1,3).

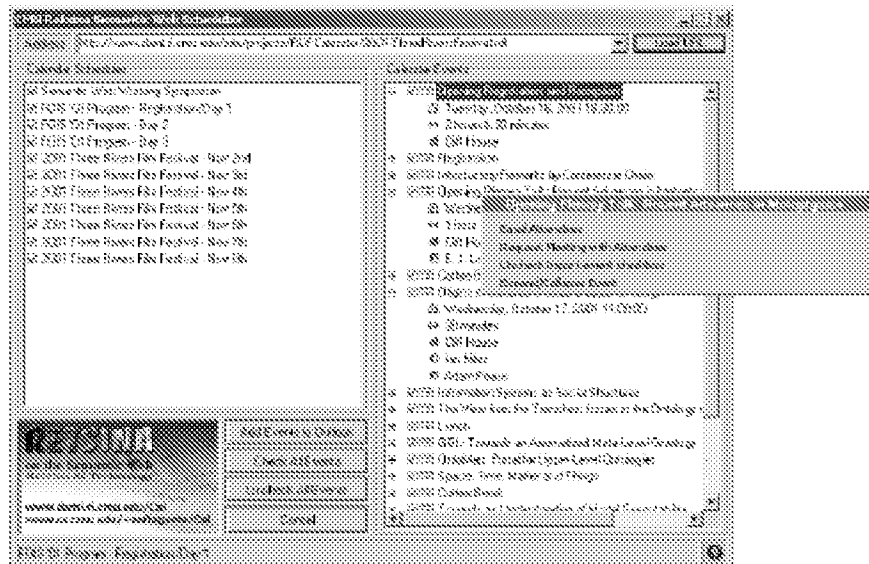


Figure 1. The RETSINA Calendar Agent Language Semantic Web schedule browser.

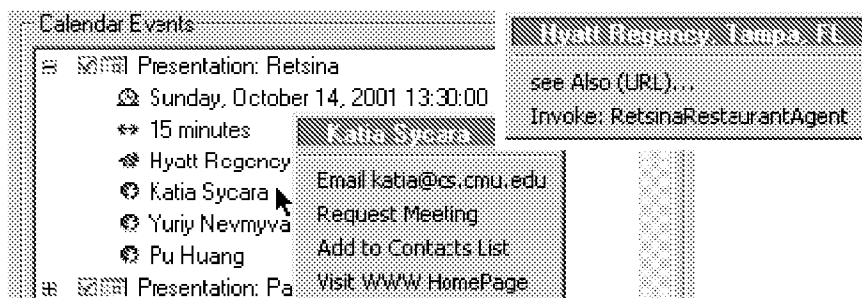


Figure 3. Browsing schedules and invoking context-based services and agents with SCAL.

Regarding Claims 4-5 and 28-29 RCAL teaches a system and method wherein text is selected for analysis by the computer user wherein the text is one of : entered by the user using a software application, displayed on a web site/page, email message *or* in a document (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figures 1-3).

Regarding Claims 6 and 30 RCAL teaches a system and method wherein a source includes *at least one of*: web site address, uniform resource locator, filename/directory *or* an email folder (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figures 1-3).

Regarding Claims 9 and 33 RCAL teaches a system and method wherein the meeting type includes a location comprises *at least one of*: conference call number, physical address, an online chat room address *or* a web-enabled presentation (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figures 1-3).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2, 7-8, 26 and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over RCAL as evidenced at least by Payne, Terry R. et al., Calendar Agents on the Semantic Web (May/June 2002) as applied to claims 1 and 25 above, and further in view of Miller, Michael Ten Minute Guide to Pocket PC 2002 (September 2002).

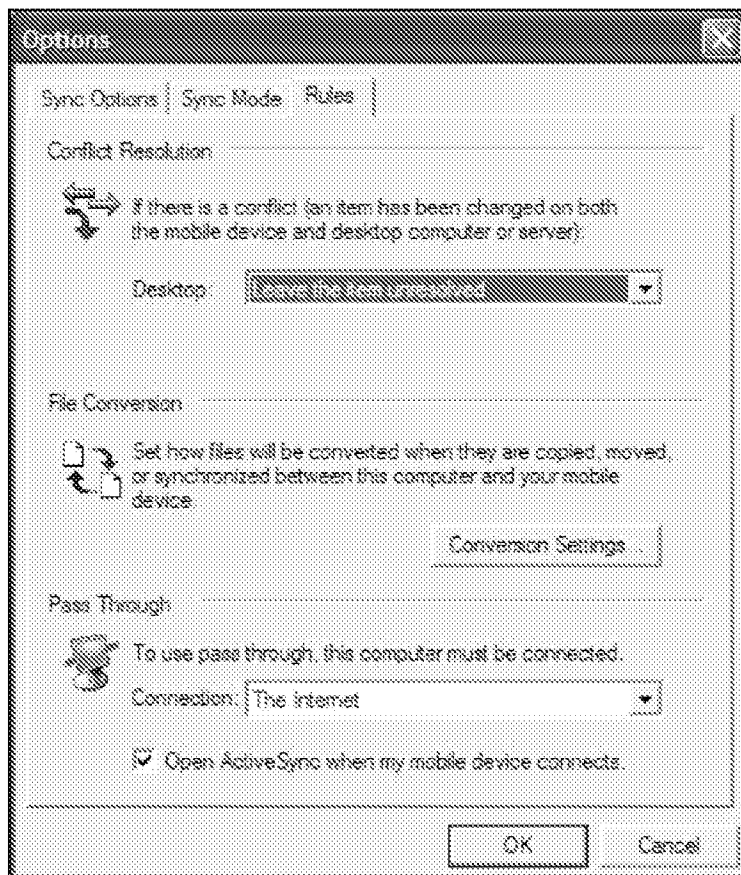
Regarding Claims 2 and 26 RCAL teaches a system and method further comprising checking the calendar application for conflicts by comparing the calendar parameters to data stored in the calendar application (Column 2, Last Two Paragraphs, Page 84).

While prompting users to resolve scheduling conflicts is old and very well known in calendar systems/methods RCAL does not expressly teach alerting the user when a scheduling conflict exists; and in response to a request by the computer the user performing *at least one of*: bypassing the scheduling conflict and retaining the conflicting data; *or* discarding selected calendar parameters to avoid the scheduling conflict as claimed.

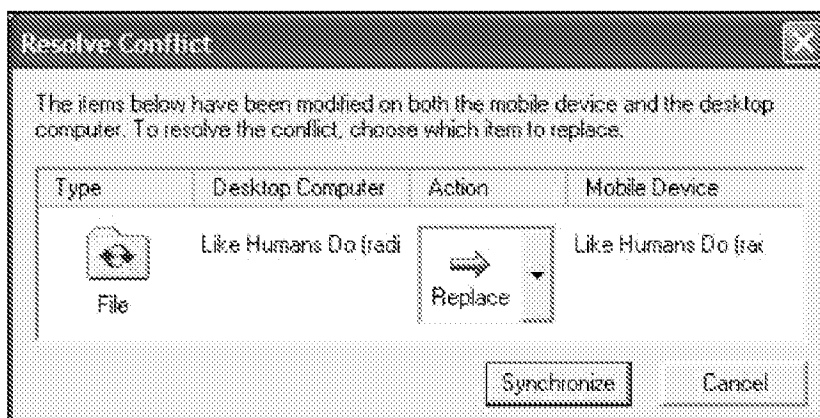
Miller teaches a calendar application (system and method) wherein scheduling conflicts are identified by comparing two calendar data sets/entries wherein the system/method: alerts the user when a scheduling conflict exists; and in response to a request by the computer the user performing at least one of: bypassing the scheduling conflict and retaining the conflicting data; or discarding selected calendar parameters to avoid the scheduling conflict (Step 5, Page 12; Steps 1-2, Pages 15; Figures 10.2, 10.3) in an analogous art of calendaring for the purpose of resolving conflicts between calendar sets/entries/records.



**Figure 10.2. Choosing how to resolve conflicts between your Pocket PC and desktop PC.**



**Figure 10.3. Resolving conflicts when both devices have changed a file.**



It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the system and method as taught by RCAL would have benefited from supporting old and very well known conflict resolution processes including but not limited to alerting the user when a scheduling conflict exists; and in response to a request by the computer the user performing at least one of: bypassing the scheduling conflict and retaining the conflicting data; or discarding selected calendar parameters to avoid the scheduling conflict in view of the teachings of Miller; the resultant system/method enabling users to resolve data conflicts between data sets.

Regarding Claims 7 and 31 RCAL teaches a system and method further comprising analyzing the calendar entry records for validating currency (how up-to-date the entry/record, determining if a change/update/revision has occurred, etc.) and updating the data if applicable comprising (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85; Figure 1-3):

- opening a source associated with a calendar record (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84);
- comparing the displayed content and calendar entry/record content (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84);
- determining if the content displayed is not similar to the calendar entry/record content (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85);
- if the content display is similar to the calendar entry/record content retaining the calendar entry/record (Column 2, Last 2 Paragraphs, Page 84; Column 1, Page 85).

While resolving conflicting data in calendar applications is old and very well known RCAL is silent on the conflict resolution process utilized/supported; specifically RCAL does not teach presenting both sets of data to a user and prompting the user to select from options including at least one of updating the calendar entry/record with the new data; or create a new calendar entry; or canceling the calendar entry as claimed.

Miller teach a calendaring system and method wherein data sets (calendar records/entries, contacts, to dos, files, etc.) are compared to in order to identify and resolve data conflicts, specifically Miller teaches that the system/method includes if the content displayed is not similar to the calendar entry/record content presenting both sets of data to the user; and prompting the user to select from options including at least one of updating the (calendar) entry/record with the new data; or create a new entry/record; or canceling the entry (Paragraphs 1-4, Steps 1-2; Pages 15-16; Figure 10.3)

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the system and method as taught by RCAL would have benefited from enabling users to resolve conflicts between data sets, specifically presenting both sets of data to a user and prompting the user to select from options including at least one of updating the calendar entry/record with the new data; or create a new calendar entry; or canceling the calendar entry in view of the teachings of Miller; the resultant system/method enabling users to resolve data conflicts between calendar data sets.

Regarding Claims 8 and 32 RCAL does not expressly teach including a notice in a calendar entry when the calendar entry record to be analyzed cannot be opened as claimed.

Official notice is taken that alerting users of errors including providing a notice to users when an entry (web page, source, other software application, etc.) can not be opened (accessed, corrupt, unavailable, unreachable, file not found, 404 error, Page not found, etc.) is old and very well known wherein such error messages alert users of conditions that may warrant their attention or require human intervention to resolve or cause the system/method do not perform properly.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the invention that the system and method as taught by the combination of RCAL and Miller would have benefited from providing any of a number of well known/common error messages including but not limited to providing a notice in a calendar entry when the calendar entry record to be analyzed cannot be opened in view of the teachings of Official Notice; the resultant system/method providing alerts (error messages) to user notifying them of conditions that may warrant their attention or require human intervention to resolve or cause the system/method do not perform properly.

7. Claims 3 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over RCAL as evidenced by at least Payne, Terry R. et al., Calendar Agents on the Semantic Web (May/June 2002) as applied to claims 1 and 25 above, and further in view of Cognitive Root's Syncplicity system/method as evidenced by at least Syncplicity review (2001).

Regarding Claims 3 and 27 RCAL does not expressly teach prompting the user to select a calendar application for storing the calendar entry/record when more than one calendar application exists.

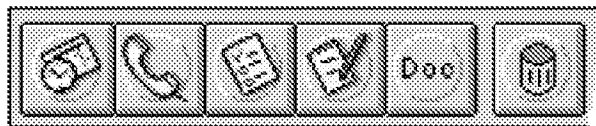
Syncplicity teaches prompting the user to select a calendar application for storing the calendar entry/record when more than one calendar application exists ("You can then specify where on your Palm to insert the data: Date book, Address book, Memo, ToDo or create a Palm Document."; Last Two Paragraphs, Page 1; Figure on Page 1; Figure on Page 2) in an analogous art of text analysis for the purpose of creating calendar, contact, to-do and other calendar application entries from text on a computer screen.

More generally Syncplicity teaches a commercially available system and method that captures, analyzes and imports (pastes) calendar, contact, memo and to-do information from a computer display (web page, email, etc.) in order to create calendar and contact entries/records from the captured data in a calendar application ("If you've ever wanted to transfer information from your word processing program, a web page or

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an email to your Palm, Syncplicity is the answer. You install the application on your Windows based PC, and use it to create a Palm OS document by simply cutting and pasting data from any electronic text source into the Syncplicity window.”; Last Two Paragraphs, Page 1).

### PDA Toolbar



It would have been to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the system and method as taught by RCL would have benefited from prompting the user to select a calendar application for storing the calendar entry/record when more than one calendar application exists in view of the teachings of Syncplicity; the resultant system/method enabling users to capture, analyze and import text displayed on a computer screen into one of a plurality of calendar applications.

8. Claims 10-16, 22-24, 34-40 and 46-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over RCAL as evidenced by at least Payne, Terry R. et al., Calendar Agents on the Semantic Web (May/June 2002) as applied to claims 1 and 25 above, and further in view of Official Notice.

Regarding Claims 10-16 and 34-40 RCAL does not expressly teach the deployment/installation steps as claimed.

Official notice is taken that deploying software applications by installing the software application using proxies, from a server, into a specified directory, version checking, etc. is old and very well known software distribution and/or installation approaches (e.g. plug-ins, add-ons, etc.).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the system and method as taught by RCAL would have used any of the plurality of well known software application distribution, deployment and/or installation approaches including those recited in claims 10-16 and 34-40 in view of the teachings of official notice.

Further it is noted that the specific techniques used to deploy/install the calendar and reminder system/method merely represent non-functional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited nor do they alter the recited structural

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elements as the method steps for performing calendaring and reminder activities for a computer user remain the same regardless of how the system (application, software) is actually deployed, distributed and/or installed on the user's computer system. Further, the structural elements remain the same regardless of the specific mechanisms used to install/deploy the software application/system. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994); *MPEP* 2106.

Regarding Claims 22-23 and 46-47 RCAL does not expressly teach utilizing a Virtual Private Network or dialing into a network access server as claimed..

Official notice is taken that utilizing VPNs and dialing into Network Access Servers are old, very well known and very common mechanisms for connecting, communicating and interacting with applications, servers and/or systems, especially distributed and/or Internet based systems/methods (applications) wherein without such connectivity means the local user computer application lacks some or all of the functionality and/or data to perform the tasks/activities of that particular application.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the system and method as taught by RCAL would have utilized any of a plurality of



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access/connection schemes, protocols, methods, systems or standards in view of the teachings of official notice.

Further it is noted that the specific techniques used to connect/access the calendar and reminder system/method merely represent non-functional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited nor do they alter the recited structural elements as the method steps for performing calendaring and reminder activities for a computer user remain the same regardless of how the system (application, software) is connected to/accessed. Further, the structural elements remain the same regardless of the specific mechanisms used to connect to/access the software application/system. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994); MPEP 2106.

9. Claims 17-18 and 41-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over RCAL as evidenced by at least Payne, Terry R. et al., Calendar Agents on the Semantic Web (May/June 2002) as applied to claims 1 and 25 above, and further in view of Abrams et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0166117.

Regarding Claims 17-18 and 41-42 RCAL does not expressly teach demand sharing as claimed.

Abrams et al. teach a demand (e.g. workload sharing, load balancing) sharing of process software for performing the method steps comprising (Paragraphs 0073-0075, 0088-0089, 0131; Figures 13A-13C, 16):

- creating a transaction (request ID, application ID, etc.) containing unique customer identification, requested service type and service parameters (Paragraph 0073-0075, 0088; Figures 13A-13C);
- sending the transaction to at least one main server (Paragraphs 0073; Figures 13A-13C);
- querying the main server about capacity (Paragraphs 0075-0076);
- allocating additional processing capacity when additional capacity appears needed to process the transaction (Paragraphs 0074-0075; Figures 13B, 13C);
- the additional capacity being at least one of the following: central processing unit, processor memory, network bandwidth, or storage capacity (Paragraphs 0009, 0073, 0091, 0104); and

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- recording a plurality of usage measurements including at least one of the following: network bandwidth, processor memory, storage or central processing unit cycles (Paragraphs 0073, 0091, 0100, 0114; Figures 20-21)

in an analogous art of computer systems for the purpose of providing dynamic/on-demand capacity (CPU, bandwidth, storage, etc.) enabling computer systems/companies to meet changing/dynamic demand (Paragraphs 0019, 0054, 0058).

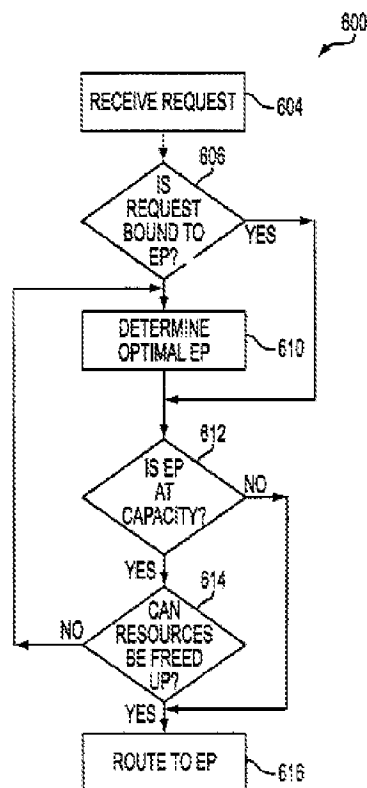


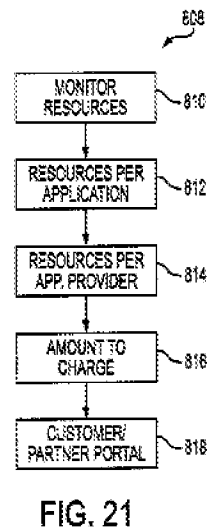
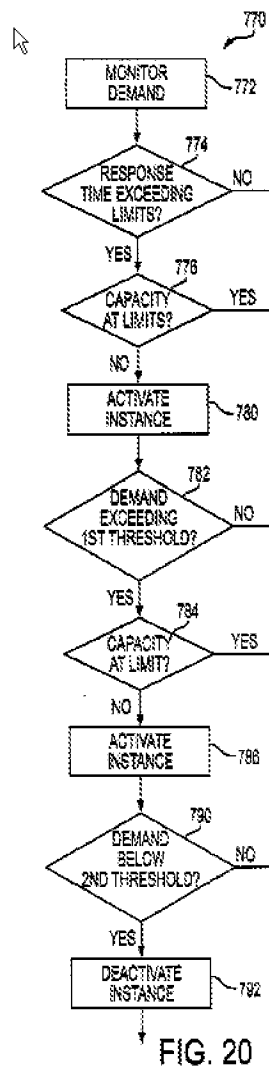
FIG. 16

Regarding Claims 19-20 and 43-44 RCAL does not expressly teach the usage/demand based billing/charging as claimed.

Abrams et al. teach a system and method further comprising (Paragraphs 0019-0021, 0104-0107; Figures 20-21):

- summing the usage measurements (Paragraphs 0100, 0105);
- acquiring at least one multiplicative value associated with the usage and with unit costs and recording any such multiplicative value as a demand charge to a requesting customer (Paragraphs 0106, 0109); and
- further comprising at least one of: posting the demand charge on a web site or sending via email as requested by the user (Paragraph 0105; Figure 21)

in an analogous art of computer systems for the purpose of enabling computer systems/companies to provide scalable systems as well as enabling companies to only be charged/billed for the amount of capacity used (Paragraphs 0019, 0054, 0058).



Regarding Claims 21 and 45 neither RCAL nor Abrams expressly teach charging the demand charge to a requesting customers account if the account exist and the user selects a charge account payment method as claimed.

Official notice is taken that charging/invoicing/billing customers account if the account exist and the user selects a charge account payment method is old and well

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known (e.g. automatic bill pay) wherein such schemes make it convenient for customers to pay bills (e.g. as opposed to writing a check for each bill/invoice received).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the system and method as taught by the combination of RCAL and Abrams et al. would have benefited from utilizing any of a plurality of well known payment/invoicing/billing schemes including but not limited to charging the demand charge to a requesting customers account if the account exist and the user selects a charge account payment method in view of the teachings of Official Notice.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Johnson et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,664,063, teach a system and method for capturing and analyzing text on a computer screen (calendar) and monitoring the source of the text to identify and alert a computer user of changes in the calendar entry/record.

- Zhang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,016,478, teach a system and method for calendaring via the text analysis of email messages.

- Shaffer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,094,681, teach a calendar and reminder system and method comprising analysis of text displayed on a computer screen, identifying calendar parameters as a result of the text analysis, creating a calendar entry/record in a calendar application and monitoring the source of the calendar record/entry for changes.

- Silverberg, U.S. Patent No. 6,216,110, teach a system and method for sharing and publishing calendar information.

- Feinleib, U.S. Patent No. 6,272,532, teach a calendar and reminder system and method comprising analysis of text displayed on a computer screen (email) and identifying and creating calendar parameters and events based on the text analysis in a calendar application.

- Narurkar et al., U.S. Patent no. 6,339,795, teach a system and method for capturing, analyzing and importing address and other information displayed on a computer screen into an application (e.g. calendar application, contact application, etc.).

- Horvitz et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,505,167, teach a calendar and reminder system and method comprising analyzing text displayed on a computer screen, identifying calendar parameters resulting from the text analysis comprising date, time, etc.; automatically or manually creating a calendar entry/record in a calendar application as well as prompting users to resolve data issues.

- Ruvolo et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,604,079, teach a calendar and reminder system and method.

- Srinivasa et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,965,900, teach a system and method for extracting/parsing calendar parameters (location, time source, etc.) from text (documents, web sites, etc.), and monitoring calendar source for changes/updates, matching/comparing calendar source with calendar application data.

- Shen, U.S. Patent No. 7,158,980, teach a system and method comprising analyzing text displayed on a computer screen (email), identifying and extracting calendar parameters based on the text analysis, and creating a calendar event/record using the calendar parameters.

- Nguyen et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0209914, teach a calendar and reminder system and method comprising online event planning/scheduling, scheduling conflict resolution and calendar reminders.



- Netscape Plug-in Guide (1998), teaches the well known use, development, installation and design of plug-ins (software modules that are downloaded and installed to extend existing applications/systems).

- Cardellini et al., Dynamic Load Balanced on Web-Server Systems (1999), teach a plurality of well known load (demand sharing, workload, service) balancing amongst a plurality of servers based on a plurality of parameters such as capacity, availability, demand and the like.

- eGrabber.com Web Pages (2000) teaches a plurality of commercially available software applications for capturing, analyzing and creating data entries/records into software applications including analyzing (parsing, extracting data entry parameters) and pasting calendar event records into a calendar application. eGrabber further teaches several approaches to resolving conflicts between captured and existing data (overwrite, replace, create duplicate, etc.).

- Maddix, A Comparison of Text Importing Tools for Users of Palm Compatible PDAs (2001), teaches a plurality of system and methods (eGrabber, anagram, Syncplicity) for analyzing and capturing calendar, to do, list and other data displayed on a screen (document, email, etc.) and creating data entries/records in the appropriate software application (e.g. calendar parameters are used to create new calendar entries/records in Palm).

- Bourke, Server Load Balancing (2001), teaches a plurality of well known methods and systems for demand sharing (load balancing) in computer systems.

- Johnson, Put Time-Saving Anagram On Your Must-Get List (2002), teaches a commercially available system and method for analyzing, capturing and importing calendar, to-do and contact information displayed on a computer screen into a calendar application (e.g. Microsoft Outlook; "The program, which works with Microsoft Outlook and Palm- flavored PDAs, translates text on your computer screen, makes an educated guess about where it goes, then pops it into your calendar, contact, or to-do list. So, for example, if you receive an e-mail that says "Let's meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow," you'd highlight "meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow," hit Control-C twice to launch anagram, then watch it open up a new entry for a calendar item with the time and date filled in.").

- Tyson, How Virtual Private Networks Work, teaches the well known concept of virtual private networks.

- Load Balancing (Wikipedia.org), teaches the well known and very common practice of demand sharing (load balancing) amongst servers/systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SCOTT L. JARRETT whose telephone number is (571)272-7033. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hafiz Tariq can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Scott L Jarrett/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3623